Opening of a water-way to Kunnamkulam.

205. **Mr K. T. Mathew:**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Diwan and the Chief Engineer has received from Mr. K. Mani Verghese, the Convener to the Committee for the opening of a water-way to Kunnamkulam, a letter dated 24th September 1934 containing the resolutions passed at a meeting of the Committee held on 21st September 1934;

(a) Whether the resolutions be printed and placed on the table; and

(b) What action has been taken with reference to the 2nd resolution ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:— Yes.

(a) Copy of the resolutions is appended (*Appendix IV*).

(b) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

Mr. K. T. Mathew:—At what stage is the matter now standing?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—The final report on the scheme has been submitted to the Government. The full report was sent to the Government from my office only very recently and it was answered yesterday that the scheme was sent to the Madras Government.

Mr. K. T. Mathew:—When was the communication from the Madras Government received by our Government?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—Five months ago.

Mr K. T. Mathew:—Was the enquiry continuing all this time?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—Yes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew:—When was the report submitted to our Government?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—About one week back.

Mr C. A. Ouseph:—May I know, Sir, who appointed this Committee? Is it a self-appointed committee?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—It is not appointed by the Government.

Mr C. A. Ouseph:—Then by whom?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—I do not know.

Troop-horses—purchase of—discrepancy in identification marks.

206. **Mr. K T. Mathew:**— Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the report submitted to the Government after making the enquiry referred to in question No. 341 dated 11th August 1934 and state what action has been taken on the enquiry report submitted to Government ?

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Mr. P. Neelakanta Menon:— The enquiry was conducted here by the Commandant, Nair Brigade. A copy of his report C. No. 4 of 1108, dated 12th January 1934 is appended *(Appendix V.)* It was proved that the Veterinary Inspector left Bombay with the animals without detecting the discrepancies between the details noted in the certificates and the marks on the horses. For this he was suspended from duty for one month.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:—What was the loss sustained by the Government by the negligence of the Inspector?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon:—No loss was sustained.

Article in Mahathi—Allegations—staff—Vadakkancheri Munsiff's Court.

207. A. Eachan Menon:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether their attention has been drawn to the article in the Mahathi newspaper under the caption "കാടാമ്പുഴയിൽ നിന്നും കാള" by Powran (page 7 of the issue dated 30th December 1934).

(2) whether there is any truth in the grave allegations made in it;

(3) if so, what action have they taken?

Rama Varmha Tampuran:— (1) Yes.

(2) and 3) The matter is under enquiry

Mr P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri:—By whom is the enquiry conducted?

Rama Varmha Tampuran:—The enquiry is being conducted by the Judicial Department.

Agricultural indebtedness in the State.

208. Mr. A. Sivarama Menon:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the total amount of agricultural indebtedness in the State;

(b) the measures they have taken or proposed to take to save the agriculturists from the effects of their heavy debt?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:— (a) Government have not collected complete statistics.

(b) Steps are being taken to disburse Rs. 20 lakhs in loans to deserving agriculturists.

Mr. A Sivarama Menon:—May I know the progress made in the collection of statistics?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—I do not think Government have embarked upon collecting any statistics yet, except perhaps what is being collected by the officer who is conducting the Economic Survey.

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